

Richmond Times-Dispatch

THE TIMES, Founded.....1858
THE DISPATCH, Founded.....1850

Published every day in the year by The Times-Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc. Address all communications to THE TIMES-DISPATCH, Times-Dispatch Building, 10 South Tenth Street, Richmond, Va.

TELEPHONE, RANDOLPH 1
Publication Office.....10 South Tenth Street
South Richmond.....1020 Hall Street
Petersburg.....109 North Symcote Street
Lynchburg.....218 Eighth Street

H. A. BROOK, STORY & BROOKS, INC.,
Special Advertising Representatives.
New York.....200 Fifth Avenue
Philadelphia.....Mutual Life Building
Chicago.....People's Gas Building

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
BY MAIL, One Six Three One
POSTAGE PAID Year. Mos. Mos. Mo.
Daily and Sunday.....\$6.00 \$3.00 \$1.50 \$1.50
Daily only.....4.00 2.00 1.00 .50
Sunday only.....2.00 1.00 .50 .25

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs) and Petersburg

Daily with Sunday, one week.....15 cents
Daily without Sunday, one week.....10 cents
Sunday only.....5 cents

Entered January 27, 1905, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Manuscripts and communications submitted for publication will not be returned unless accompanied by postage stamps.

SUNDAY, JULY 11, 1915.

Why Burlesque Shows?

QUITE apart from the question of morals—if, indeed, any is involved—it is to be hoped that the men who control the theater in Richmond for which burlesque has been suggested for next season will find some other use to which the house may be put. Leaving aside the fact that burlesque performances compel constant police supervision, they offer only the crudest form of entertainment, the most elemental species of amusement.

While both the stage and the screen contain almost boundless opportunities for the exploitation of beauty and art, a burlesque show rarely displays either talent or mere cleverness, but depends for its effectiveness and money-making capacity upon slapstick comedy or sheer vulgarity. And neither of these tends to increase even the material welfare of a community.

Justice Even to Huerta

AMERICAN citizens who have a proper regard and respect for the good faith of judicial processes will hope there is no truth in the report that the charges against Victoriano Huerta are to be dropped, on condition that that elderly trouble-maker remove himself from the Mexican border and take up his abode in some more distant quarter of the United States or in foreign lands.

If the government has evidence to support the charges made when Huerta was arrested, the charges should be pressed. If there was, in fact, no evidence, his arrest was a blunder, for which somebody should suffer.

This is not Spain and the fifteenth century, but the United States of America and the twentieth. Even Huerta ought not to be seized and cast into jail on the unverified suspicion of some overzealous functionary. Watching is not only wise but necessary, under the circumstances, but actual imprisonment is quite another matter.

For Smaller Police Board

WHATSOEVER degree of blame the Council committee investigating the Police Department has attached to individual members of the Police Board, there seems to be general belief that the committee has made extended recommendations looking to larger efficiency in police administration. That part of the report is quite certain to be well received.

A nine-man Police Board, however constituted, is unlikely to be satisfactory. The fact that its members are selected to represent the several city wards does not conduce to good police work, because the representative of each ward naturally expects to be consulted about the manner in which his section is policed. An administrative attitude that regards the city as a whole is more promising of desirable result. It is true that by the expiration of the terms of commissioners representing abolished wards the board will be reduced from nine members to five, but even that number is too large.

Britain in Africa

FINAL surrender of the German forces in German Southwest Africa to the armies commanded by General Botha, the former Boer chieftain, and present Premier of the Union of South Africa, has more than one significance. The great outstanding fact is, however, that in ten years the enlightened colonial policy of Great Britain has converted Boer leaders like Botha and Boer populations in the Orange Free State and the Transvaal from bitter enemies into loyal subjects.

If that fact proves anything, it is that the British policy needs and satisfies the needs of liberty-loving men. It is a whole sermon in itself. It explains why democracy the world over has given its sympathy in this great conflict to England and France, rather than to Germany and Austria.

That sympathy has been instinctive. It has conquered in this country a considerable latent hostility to England. It has not been nourished, despite statements to the contrary, by the outpourings of British politicians and newspapers. It is due only in part to compassion for Belgium and abhorrence of the grievous wrongs Belgium has suffered. It has had its origin in the universal perception that the war which shakes Europe is a duel, after all, between the forces of liberty and the forces of autocracy.

The Boers felt this with the rest of us. That is why the attempts at revolution, generally supposed to have been instigated by German agitators, with the aid of German gold, proved abortive and were so soon suppressed.

German Southwest Africa is half again as large as the German empire itself. It shares

now the fate of the other German colonies, which one by one have fallen before allied arms. Only in East Africa is the struggle continued, and there it dies out rapidly. British sea power has proved its supremacy. Germany's whole colonial empire has gone into the melting pot.

The Parting of the Ways

IN the note addressed by this government to the government of Germany on May 13, President Wilson, after asserting the rights of American citizens on the high seas, reiterating former refusals to accede to limitations of those rights, and describing the incidents, culminating in the destruction of the Lusitania, wherein neutral prerogatives had been lawlessly assailed and neutral lives murderously slain, said:

"If [the United States] confidently expects, therefore, that the imperial German government will disavow the acts of which the government of the United States complains: that they will make reparation, so far as reparation is possible, for injuries which are without measure, and that they will take immediate steps to prevent the recurrence of anything so obviously subversive of the principles of warfare, which the imperial German government have in the past so wisely and so firmly contended. The imperial German government will not expect the government of the United States to omit any word or any act necessary to the performance of its sacred duty of maintaining the rights of the United States and its citizens, and of safeguarding their free exercise and enjoyment."

In the note of June 9, the President described the crime of the Lusitania and the obligations the slaughter of its citizens imposed on the United States in these words of stately dignity and measured truth:

Whatever be the other facts regarding the Lusitania, the principal fact is that a great steamer, primarily and chiefly a conveyance for passengers, and carrying more than 1,000 souls, who had no part or lot in the conduct of the war, was torpedoed and sunk without so much as a challenge or a warning, and that men, women and children were sent to their death in circumstances unparalleled in modern warfare. The fact that more than 100 American citizens were among those who perished, made it the duty of the government of the United States to speak of these things, and once more, with solemn emphasis, to call the attention of the imperial German government to the grave responsibility which the government of the United States conceives that it has incurred in this tragic occurrence, and to the indisputable principle upon which that responsibility rests.

What says Germany to these warnings, given and repeated with "solemn emphasis"? Why, this:

If the commander of the German submarine which destroyed the Lusitania had caused the crew and passengers to take to the boats before firing a torpedo, this would have meant the sure destruction of his own vessel. After the experience in sinking much smaller and less seaworthy vessels, it was to be expected that a mighty ship like the Lusitania would remain above water long enough, even after the torpedoing, to permit passengers to enter the ship's boats.

This is to trifle with the American people, as well as with the facts. Here is no "disavowal of the acts of which the government of the United States complains," but rather a smug satisfaction; here is no offer of "reparation, so far as reparation is possible, for injuries without measure."

Viewed in connection with the stand taken by the Berlin Foreign Office as to the Lusitania, the suggestions looking to the future safety of American lives become meaningless. They are based on the calm assumption that murder, in cases of necessity, is a German prerogative. Out of Germany's great mercy and loving kindness, however, that prerogative will not be exercised. If the United States will consent to act exactly as the Kaiser directs.

The crime of the Lusitania, let it be remembered, was neither increased nor diminished in enormity by the fact that it counted over 100 American victims. Its criminality was in its ruthless and causeless slaughter of noncombatants, including women and little children, without word of warning or opportunity to escape. That American lives were sacrificed, as the President says, "made it the duty of the United States to speak of these things," but laid no additional guilt on the soul of the monster who directed the firing of the fatal shot.

With Germany taking the view she does of that atrocity—justifying rather than excusing or palliating it—we fail to see either the wisdom or the utility of prolonging negotiations. Under these circumstances, there can be no meeting of minds—for which fact, also under the circumstances, this people should devoutly thank God.

Germany and the United States have come to the parting of the ways.

Taxation of Church Property

AN amendment making the property of churches, charitable organizations, fraternal orders and cemeteries taxable was defeated in the taxation committee of the New York Constitutional Convention, in session at Albany.

The amendment was presented by James L. Nixon, of Buffalo, who wished to eliminate tax exemptions except in the case of government property. His measure was regarded as ultra-radical, and was, therefore, voted down, but it is not unlikely that the present wide power of tax exemption enjoyed by the Legislature will be limited.

Undoubtedly, the Nixon amendment went much too far. Church buildings and certain kinds of charitable property should not be burdened with taxes. At the same time, exemption from taxation has been carried to great lengths in New York. Millions of dollars' worth of church and charitable property should not go untaxed, while lay property is burdened to the limit. When the church is a rich landlord, enjoying high rents and large bequests, there seems no reason why it should not pay its share towards the expenses of the State.

Roumania and Bulgaria, apparently, find it much more comfortable on the fence than the allies thought possible. They show no present disposition to add to their troubles.

The Standard Oil Company appears to have overlooked a bet. So far as is known heretofore, it did not raise the price of oil in celebration of John D. Rockefeller's seventy-sixth birthday.

The government must have concluded that the Sayville wireless station was not as strong a friend of neutrality as the pro-German propagandists contended it was.

SONGS AND SAWS

Truths of History—No. 2.
When Bonaparte at Waterloo
Perceived the setting of his sun,
His grief was not, as folks think true,
That he had lost the world he'd won.

That yarn the solemn histories tell
In sober fact is just a sell.

No, Boney mourned that fateful day
That moving pictures were not born;
He knew he could have made them pay,
And laughed another world to scorn.

Just think how folks would flock to view
A film that pictured Waterloo!

The Penalist Says:
When you scratch the skin of the peace-advocate you find usually they are not very different from more martial spirits. What they really mean by their slogan is peace at any price they will not have to pay themselves—and the jingoes are for war on exactly the same terms.

Diplomacy.
"Johnny," said the indignant parent, "why didn't you come home when I called you?"
"I didn't hear you," replied Truthful John.
"Then why did you run away?"
"Because I was afraid that I might hear you."

A Mere Experiment.
Grubbs—How do you suppose this mental healer acquires the nerve to promise to cure any illness?
Stubbs—Oh, that's a mere trick of the trade. You see, he feels by faith, and the offers he holds out are tests of his patients' credulity.

Vacations.
"Binks seems to be strongly attached to his bottle."
"Is—but not permanently. Every now and then he tears himself loose and takes a short trip on the sprinkler."

Like It, Anyway.
The Teacher—What is the Great American Desert?
The Prize Pupil (whose father has just returned from his travels)—West Virginia.

Paradox.
The bathing suits the lassies wear
Sometimes are rather hard to find.
Yet they disprove the ancient saw:
That "out of sight is out of mind."

THE TATTLER.

Chats With Virginia Editors

"An exchange has discovered," says the West Point News, "that a poor girl has to be awfully good-looking to be pretty, and a rich girl has to be awfully homely to be ugly. It might have added that the reason that a rich man is smart to be intelligent, and a rich man almost a blockhead to be ignorant." Akrarian Sophist would be a good enough headline for the above.

The Tidewater News, the oracle for the good town of Franklin, has this to say: "That passengers from Richmond for Franklin or points on the Seaboard may soon disembark at Ivor and take a cross-country jitney bus for Franklin is a probability that may become a speedy reality if the plans of certain local enthusiasts materialize, and in connection with the same proposition, any lady living in the country between these towns may go to Ivor, Courtland or Franklin to shop without waiting until it is convenient for her husband to spare his team to go to town with her. The 'jitney' idea is a great one and is revolutionizing traffic ideas, particularly in these sections of the country lying between parallel railway lines with no means of communication except by roundabout and expensive railroad journeys with tiresome waits at junction points."

According to the News of that town, Buchanan has waked up. Hear the News man: "The new macadam street work on the north side from the bridge to eastern corporation line is one of the most marked improvements the town has had. This will attract more attention and favorable comment by the traveling public for the reason that the condition of this street was undeniably bad. No section of Town Council has macadamized this street the first time in the history of the town, would it not be the proper thing for some of our 'doubting Thomases,' who wagged the News all kinds of unpaid bets, that this street work would never be done, to at least speak a word of praise for the much-abused Councilmen, in view of the good work done?"

Radford has pulled off a most successful summer normal, and here is the way the editor of the News looks at it: "There is just one trouble about the summer normal—it doesn't last all summer, and Radford likes it so much, it would be pleased if it could last all winter. Then we'd tempt winter to linger in the lap of spring."

Current Editorial Comment

Farmer Has Fine Prospects
There are no reasons leading the farmers of the United States to believe they may have to sell what they produce on their farms at low prices. There is no prospect of peace in Europe, and while the war lasts there will be a demand for every bushel and every pound of commodities which enter into the composition of human food.

To supply this demand the eyes of the world will be turned to the harvest fields and granaries, and to the ranches and green pastures of the American farmers. If the farmer has a surplus of grain, he will be sure to find a market for it, and if he has a surplus of livestock, he will find a market for that, too. The demand for farm products will be large while the war goes on, and will continue afterwards, for our own population has been increasing, the demand for food in a greater ratio than production has increased. To use a miner's phrase, the American farmer has not only struck "paying dirt," he has struck a rich vein, and is adding to his wealth, or may, in nuggets.—Knoxville Journal and Tribune.

Stopping Abuse of Wireless
Doubtless the seizure by the Federal government of the powerful wireless station at Sayville, one of the mediums of communication between Germany and the world without, will be interpreted by the "one-sidedness" of American neutrality. There will be just about as much justice in this contention as there is in the claim that because the United States permits the sale of munitions of war to the allies it is therefore violating the spirit of neutrality, and is doing a wrong to Germany. It was expressly laid down by one of the conventions of the second Hague conference that belligerents must not make use of any wireless station on the territory of a neutral for purely military purposes or as a means of communication with the belligerent forces on land or sea. And if the government has reason to believe that the Sayville station has been used to convey to German naval vessels information as to the movements of shipping belonging to belligerent powers, it is entirely justified in its present action. There has long been suspicion that such intelligence was being sent under the cover of apparently harmless commercial messages, and this suspicion has been deepened by the intercepts with which German submarines have interfered and

destroyed shipping bound for British ports from this side the Atlantic. It is probable, however, that the recent disclosure that inventions which increase the power of wireless apparatus and enable operators to escape or evade supervision over the messages transmitted, were in possession of the Germans has hastened the decision of the Federal authorities to take over the immediate control of the station at Sayville. It will still be available for legitimate communications, but not for military purposes.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The State Department, which has been trying to get dyestuffs from Germany, understands that Germany does not intend to send any more dyestuffs to the United States, except in exchange for cotton. So long as cotton is kept out of Germany, she will hold back these very important products of which we are in such need. Germany can hardly be blamed for this course, nor can we blame the allies for trying to keep from Germany a product which is a very severe curtailment in the colors for fabrics. That should not worry any one. We can get along with the natural colors if necessary and with such colors as our dyestuff makers of dyestuffs can produce. Really, it might be quite a relief to have 50 per cent or more of the colors we now see in fabrics wiped out.—Buffalo Express.

Gossip From "Down Home"

"It was stated," says the Greensboro Record, "that Mr. Roswell Burchard, of Rhode Island, one of the orators at the battle ground Saturday, was a son of the New York preacher, whose declaration that Cleveland represented 'Rum, Romanism and Rebellion' acted as a boomerang against Blaine and caused the election of the Democrat."

The Newbern Journal does some plain talking in the following: "Somebody around this town is either furnishing a lot of free gasoline or else a bunch of car owners, who owe money to nearly everybody in the city, are a bunch of liars. These men declare that they have no money when called on to pay their bills. Yet they manage to joyride a goodly portion of every day."

The Davie Record gives a glowing account of conditions in Davie County as follows: "The editor spent a couple of days last week out among the farmers of the county, the best people in the world and the people who feed us all. The prospect for a bumper corn crop is the best we have seen for many years, and if refreshing showers visit us, but few of our people will be buying corn next spring. The farmers are busy laying by their corn and threshing wheat and oats. We were favorably impressed with the blackberry crop also. The berries are large and juicy and are mighty sweet. Last year they were small and bitter, and the crop was slim besides. The man who lives in the country is fortunate indeed, for he is living close to Nature and Nature's bounty. Most of our farmers are living well and making money, and while the man who works in the shop is living on short rations and striving to keep the wolf from the door, the farmer has plenty and to spare. God bless the farmer! We are all depending on him."

The Catawba County News, published at Newton, gives this testimony to the value of good roads: "Two wagons loaded with six large hales of wool passed through Newton on Wednesday—six hales to each wagon, with two small horses each. Without the road as it is between here and Maiden, three hales would have been as much as they could have pulled."

"Generally not much is expected of a town farmer," says the Lincoln News, "but Mr. W. E. Grigg tells the News of a town farmer who is making good. He says Alderman Charles Rhodes has a clover field along the bottom lands of the Aspin Street Creek that is hard to beat, and tons of hay are already in sight. This field of red clover is seven feet high in some places. Just another evidence of what Lincoln soil will do when given a chance."

The Voice of the People

"One Party of Necessity."
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Your editorial of July 10, under this caption, very plainly states the existence of a political monopoly in Virginia. Democrats and Republicans are not only antagonistic, but are naturally antagonistic. Yet the Democratic party condemns monopoly in business and industry, in politics, in commerce, in the interests of interest as necessary to the politician and denounces it as a crime in the business man. There is evidently something the matter with the mind of the Democratic party. The party has long been proven a fallacy; when by the operation of the Constitution the State of Virginia was deprived of the ballot without impairing civil supremacy in the State the danger of the party to the State was very remote. Some explanation other than this must be produced to convince people who think. In truth, Virginia is no longer a democracy, nor has it a Democratic party. The new Constitution was never ratified by the people, and never will be. Local self-government no longer exists. It was done to death in the last election—nothing remains. I note you carefully refrain from naming this one party of necessity. It can be classified without trouble, but naming it is not the thing. It is to be known as the Prohibition-Democratic party, or the Democratic-Prohibition party, or the Anti-Saloon Democratic party, or the Party of Necessity, or the Party of the head-quarters of the Anti-Saloon League or the headquarters of the United States State does it stand for?"
T. D. FREY,
Richmond, July 9, 1915.

The West Virginia Debt.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir—Publications in the Baltimore Sun of the 28th of June under the caption "New Debt Fight Likely," and in the Alexandria Gazette, about the same time, frankly avowed the existence of the holders of West Virginia bonds, in their threatened litigation, is ruthlessly to shove into the hands of the State of Virginia, and what is said, "to avoid the payment of any huge fees to a commission."

It is not likely to say no "new debt fight" is "likely," nor even possible, as between the bondholders and the State of Virginia; for, even if such fight could be inaugurated (as cannot be), the bondholders would be met by their own deliberate solemn contract with Virginia that reasonable compensation to her commission was to be made by Virginia out of the proceeds of the recovery. And so was the contract between Virginia and the commission. Hence, the State of Virginia, and not another, is to be made to pay the reasonable compensation to her commission. Moreover and apart from their contract, the bondholders are without a fault in the matter. They have saved and except before the Legislature of Virginia, by whom alone the question of reasonable compensation to the Virginia commission is to be determined, which of course must include compensation to the counsel retained by the commission to conduct the suit of Virginia against West Virginia.

And may it be said, just here, to inquire what ground have the bondholders to fear that Virginia, out of the proceeds of the recovery, will not provide the excessive compensation or compensation that may be regarded unreasonable? Is not such assumption the case with bondholders who have been served by Virginia with utmost fidelity, a gratuitous, unwarranted and mean innuendo against the integrity of Virginia? Is it possible to conceive that the Supreme Court of the United States would take jurisdiction of such an assault by individuals upon the honor and honesty of a free State?
Of course, as is rightly conceived by the bondholders, the State of Virginia will provide liberal compensation to the commission, and the counsel retained by the commission, not on account of the long and arduous labor faithfully performed upon this matter by the commission, but also and especially because the frame of the undertaking to be presented now by the bondholders is the debt of the State of Virginia, and other case of so great antiquity, to-wit: "The Devil was sick, etc."
J. THOMPSON BROWN,
Lynchburg, Va., July 8, 1915.

LEAVING WOODROW AT HOME

One of the Day's Best Cartoons.



—From the Des Moines Register and Leader.

LITTLE TALKS ON THRIFT

By S. W. STRAUS
President American Society for Thrift



Most of the great fortunes were made by men who practiced private thrift. They looked after the pennies. As a result the dollars looked after themselves. Cyrus H. McCormick's father and his mother's people were farmers. They were frugal and thrifty. His father owned several farms, gristmills, etc. He might be supposed from this that young Cyrus lived a life of careless ease and was not required to take thought for the morrow. Such was not the case, however. While he was not overworked as poorer boys often are, he was taught to be industrious and careful. His parents did not consider it to be his right to "throw away" the money accumulated by the hard work of his ancestors, or to rest on their laurels. His training was such that his genius was not frittered away. He never was known as a "poor inventor." He was early taught the lesson of thrift. He made money, he saved money, and he made more money.

John Wanamaker's start was very different, for he began on nothing. His parents were poor, and after school he had to help his father, a brickmaker. The habit of industry acquired so early became of the greatest benefit to him in after life. Starting to work on a salary of \$1.50 a week, which was eventually raised, he managed not only to help his parents, but to save \$100. It took great thrift to save this amount, but no one has a corner on thrift. Instead of spending his hundred dollars on a vacation, young Wanamaker invested it. The investment proved to be so fortunate that he made \$2,000 out of it, and with this sum he commenced for himself in the clothing business, a business that he not only understood, but liked.

The times were then hard—it was just at the outbreak of the Civil War—and predictions of failure were numerous. But he knew the clothing business thoroughly, was schooled in a home of thrift and was not discouraged. Moreover he started modestly, refraining from a display of expensive furnishings and a costly staff. "If you would have a faithful servant, and one that you like," said Franklin, "serve yourself."

Again, "Keep thy shop and thy shop will keep thee." These two things John Wanamaker did. He employed no superfluous help, took down his own shutters, made his feet, swept the store and often delivered lectures on thrift. He also kept his own accounts. Fifteen years later Wanamaker was giving employment to 2,000 persons.

OUR BILLION-DOLLAR TRADE BALANCE

Professor Jacob H. Hollander, of Johns Hopkins, contributes to a symposium, printed in the current number of the Independent, on "Our Billion-Dollar Trade Balance."
Dr. Hollander writes:
"An international balance such as the United States is now accumulating would be an impossible development in ordinary times. There would be no such imperative demand from abroad for goods of which the United States has become the only available producer. And, on the other hand, the United States would be making its customary heavy purchases in foreign markets from which it is now excluded. Thus by selling relatively less and by buying relatively more, our trade would approximate its normal state. Any chronic excess of exports would be checked by the influx of gold, the rise of prices and a stimulus to imports. Any chronic excess of imports would be corrected by the glut of gold, the fall of prices and a stimulus to exports. These adjustments would be effected through the ordinary mechanism of foreign exchange and international investment. But these are not ordinary times. Driven by military necessity, Europe is buying of us, almost at our own terms, vast supplies of munitions and great stocks of food. For these exports we are able to take only part payment in commodities, the consequence of the widespread derangement in the markets from which we are in the habit of buying, due to military occupation and maritime blockades. Now can the debt be extinguished by payment in gold, since every debtor country is hoarding its stock of the precious metal or permitting only small and necessary amounts to trickle through."
"Finally, our usual practice of applying a favorable balance to the reduction of foreign indebtedness is restricted by the public control of the world's stock exchanges through the nature of minimum prices and by the reluctance of foreign investors to sacrifice their holdings."
The only course left open to the United States has been to finance its international foreign sales by credit accounts and thus is what we are now doing. I can see no prospect of early change in this direction. The warring countries will continue to buy the supplies upon which they deem national existence to depend. We will be unable to make payment either in goods or in gold or by cancellation of existing debts; and in order to continue to sell our wares to them we must continue to depend on payment in gold. The immediate effect upon the United States should be great economic gain. We are selling enormous quantities of goods, at exceptionally profitable prices, upon credit terms that involve less risk than do ordinary commercial transactions. The ultimate menace to the United States seems to lie in the warped and feverish quality of the European market, first, the overstimulation of a limited group of industries and the relative depression of all others; and, second and more important, a trade expansion based upon the buying capacity and not upon the productive efficiency of the European countries."

LANSING AND "HAM" IN OLD CASE

WASHINGTON, July 10.—Senator James Hamilton Lewis, of Illinois, has a fishing smack named for him, and that fishing smack is at present the cause of international complications between this country and Russia. Furthermore, Secretary of State Robert Lansing has much more to do with the unraveling of that fishing smack disturbance than the ordinary reader would suspect; and the whole story is being told in Washington corridors these days.

The story goes that in the years of 1894, 1895 and 1896 "Jim Ham" Lewis was a struggling lawyer in the city of Seattle, Wash. He had gone there from the South to make his fame and fortune. At the same time a little fleet of fishing smacks began to get in trouble in the North Pacific waters. The boats piled up and down the British and Russian coasts along Bering Strait, and they poached in British and British territory and were straightaway seized by naval vessels of those countries.
The owners retained Lewis as attorney, and he fought all through the various tribunals all the way to the Supreme Court of the United States, where a victory was gained in a test case for the owners of the ship Coquille, the lower courts all being reversed. Then the British owners of interest in these vessels made claim for all their expenses and damages before the British-American Claims Commission, which was established to hear controversies between the two countries.
Robert Lansing, then almost unknown to fame, appeared as counsel with Lewis. Lansing represented the larger interest and Lewis the smaller. They were successful, and as the result of the victory achieved, the clients of Lewis changed the name of one of the smacks to the James Hamilton Lewis, out of compliment to their counsel.
Then the James Hamilton Lewis began to be one of the liveliest little seal poachers in the Pacific, and was consequently picked up by the Russian government. The owners made an indignant protest, and the case has been pending between the United States and Russia ever since.
Now the Secretary of State, who must adjust the treaty of this submarine, is Robert F. Lansing, who was chief counsel for the United States end of the controversy before the claims tribunal.
James Hamilton Lewis is one of the United States Senators who must pass the question of whether or not Lansing's work shall be ratified, and Senator Lewis, whose namesake caused the trouble, was attorney for the American interests when the litigation was initiated.
The case started twenty-three years ago. The two men involved have reached eminent places in the world, while their clients' cases are still in court; and the controversies between Russia, England and the United States on the general fishing and seal question are still unsettled and are matters of irritation.